

Message Text

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17S

ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 INR-05 H-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 ACDA-05

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P 110955Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9704

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 4379

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MOPS CB

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH LON NON, THE MARSHAL'S BROTHER.

REF: PHNOM PENH 4277

1. MY MEETING WITH THE MARSHAL'S BROTHER, LON NON, WAS DELAYED BY 24 HOURS. WHEN I SAW HIM TODAY, MARCH 11, THE MEETING LASTED TEN MINUTES. I TOLD HIM THAT THE PILOTS OF THE DC-8 PLANES HAD SUSPENDED THEIR FLIGHTS INTO POCHENTONG BECAUSE OF THE HIGH RISK FROM ARTILLERY/ROCKET ATTACKS. I SAID I REALIZED THAT LON NON WANTED TO TALK ABOUT FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS BUT I BLUNTLY TOLD HIM THAT THERE WOULD BE NO FUTURE TO DISCUSS IF THE U.S. AIRLIFT WERE TO HALT BECAUSE OF THE REFUSAL OF AMERICAN PILOTS TO FLY ON ACCOUNT OF LACK OF SECURITY AT POCHENTONG.

2. I SAID THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING HE COULD DO RIGHT NOW WOULD BE TO ALERT HIS BROTHER TO THE MORTAL DANGER THE REPUBLIC IS FACING UNLESS FANK SUCCEEDS WITH A COUNTERATTACK IN THE TUOL LEAP AREA WHICH WILL PUSH THE ENEMY OUT OF RANGE OF POCHENTONG AIRPORT. I SAID I HAD AN APPOINTMENT IN ONE HOUR WITH THE MARSHAL TO ALERT HIM TO THE PROBLEM SO THAT HE CAN INSTRUCT FANK TO MOUNT THE NECESSARY EFFORT, FIRST TO REGAIN THE 1,100 METER LOST

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IN THE TUOL LEAP AREA YESTERDAY AND THEN TO DRIVE

THE ENEMY FARTHER AWAY.

3. LON NON LEFT IMMEDIATELY FROM MY HOUSE TO SEE HIS BROTHER. IN THIS WAY THE MARSHAL WILL HAVE ONE HOUR'S ADVANCE WARNING OF WHAT I WISH TO DISCUSS AND HE CAN TELL ME AT THAT TIME WHAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN TO REDRESS THE SITUATION.

4. I TOLD LON NON THAT ONCE THIS IMMEDIATE PROBLEM HAS BEEN RESOLVED, I WOULD BE WILLING TO TALK WITH HIM ABOUT "THE FUTURE" OF THE KHMER REPUBLIC.
DEAN

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